

1.31 Backcountry Recreation, Year-round Nonmotorized

Theme – Backcountry, nonmotorized recreation areas are managed to provide recreation opportunities in a natural-appearing landscape.

Setting - These areas, usually 2,500 acres or larger, are generally unroaded or may have some evidence of past roads. They are natural or natural appearing with little or no evidence of recent human-caused disturbance. They are important for providing nonmotorized recreation near the primitive end of the recreation opportunity spectrum.

Desired Condition – A variety of uncrowded, all year, nonmotorized recreation opportunities are provided in a natural or natural-appearing setting. Improvements such as trailheads, travelways, signs, bridges, fences, or shelters that enhance the recreation opportunities may be present. Travelways provide challenging hiking, horseback riding, or mountain biking opportunities. The potential to view wildlife is high.

Late successional structure stands may be present offering a variety of wildlife species associated with these habitats. Rangeland vegetation will occur in a mix of seral stages but will predominantly be in mid seral to late seral stages of development. Domestic livestock will be encountered in this area during the summer. Some signs of management practices, such as salting areas, fences, and water developments, may be present. Existing old roadbeds may be evident, but rehabilitation efforts will change their appearance. These roadbeds may be utilized as part of the trail system. There will usually be less than 15 encounters with other parties per day. These areas may offer unique hunting opportunities away from sight and sound of motorized vehicles.

Standards and Guidelines

General

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| Standards | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allow uses and activities only if they do not degrade the semi-primitive character of the area. 2. Reclaim disturbed lands to a condition suitable for the purposes for which the area was identified. |
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Fire and Fuels

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| Guidelines | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When possible, where fire suppression is necessary, use techniques, which minimize soil and vegetation disturbance. 2. Use perimeter control or prescription control as the wildland fire management strategy. |
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Infrastructure

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| Standards | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Manage for non-motorized use except when authorized by special use permit or for administrative or emergency purposes. |
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